Rail link to Agartala

*505. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to extend the rail link to Agartala, Tripura; and

(b) if so, the details and cost of the scheme and by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The survey of extension of the Railway line from Kumarghat to Agartala has been taken up. Further action would depend on the results of the survey and availability of resources in the coming years.

Completion of Bilaspur-Lal Kuan Section of Rampur-New Haldwani track

*508. SHRI RAM RATAN RAM:
SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bilaspur-Lal Kuan section of Rampur-New Haldwani track has been completed;

(b) if so, by when the section is likely to be opened for traffic; and

(c) by when the entire project is likely to be completed and at what cost together with the original estimated cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Construction of new line from Bilaspur to Lalkuan is targetted to be opened to traffic in 1993-94.

(c) In 1993-94. Original cost—Rs. 12.98 crores (1974-75 price). Latest cost—Rs. 49.54 crores (1991-92 price).

News-item captioned "Doctors can be injurious to Health"

*509. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news report published in the magazine 'LIFE' of the 'OBSERVER' New Delhi of 26th July, 1992 under the caption "Doctors can be injurious to health";

(b) whether Government have made any enquiry into the reports about the negligence of doctors in carrying out operations on patients without proper investigations;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) what steps Government propose to take against those involved in these cases; and

(e) the manner in which Government propose to compensate the families of the patients who lost their lives or have become handicapped due otthe negligence of doctors?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) to (e) The news item titled 'Doctors can be injurious to health' refers inter-alia to four specific cases which occured in different hospitals in Bombay from 1984 onwards. The same report has also indicated that three of the case are sub-judice while in the fourth case the Maharashtra State Consumer Forum have provided compensation to the patient.

The question of granting compensation to victims or the families of patients who suffer due to the alleged negligence of medical practitioners is being addressed by the Civil Courts. Compensation as decided by the Courts is paid in terms of the orders passed. However, where cases of negligence of Government doc-

tors are reported, enquiries are promptly instituted and action as provided under the Rules is taken.

Reorganisation of DTC Routes

510. SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI NAUNIHAL SINGH:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been conducted by Rail India Technical and Economic Services (RITES) for reorganising the DTC bus routes and making the public transport more efficient in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action is being taken to implement the report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Delhi Administration have assigned to the RITES a study to optimise the carrying capacity of the Urban Bus System for Delhi. The study envisages optimal designs of urban bus system with a gives fleet size by route rationlisation and scheduling. RITES are expected to submit the report in April, 1993.

Resource generation undertaken by Ministry of Surface Transport

*511. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has decided to generate resources worth Rs. 1000 crores by making commercial use of is prime real estate in Delih and Calcutta; and

(b) if so. what are the details of the proposed projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) Commercial use of real estate under the control of the Ministry in Calcutta and Delhi has been identified as a source of raising resources by organisations under the Ministry. The Delhi Transport Corporation propose to develop the land and space available in the Depots and Terminals for commercial use.

The Government have accorded 'in principle' approval to a Memorandum of Understanding signed between Calcutta Port Trust and M/s Indian Road Construction Corporation Ltd. for commercial exploitation of about 81 acres of surplus land of Calcutta Port Trust.

Legislation on killing of female Foetus

*512. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *Alias* MEEM AFZALL:
SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) by when the legislation for preventing destruction of female foetus during pregnancy in likely to be introduced in Parliament; and

(b) what are the salient features of the proposed Legislation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI M. L. FOTEDAR): (a) and (b) The Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Regulation and Prevention of Misuse) Bill, 1991 has already been introduced in the Lok Sabha on the 12th September, 1991. The Bill has been referred to a Joint Committee of Parliament consisting of 22 members of both Houses for its consideraion.

The Bill has the following salient features:—

(1) Use of pre-natal diagnostic techniques for determination fo sex and advertisement for the purpose will be banned;

(2) Pre-natal diagnostic techniques can be used only for the detection of